

Ms. Rapoport

Geometry 2015

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Dear Geometry scholars,

We have only known each other for a week and I can already tell what a wonderful group of students you are... you have been helpful and thoughtful to me as a new teacher and I appreciate it. You have been introduced to a few of these procedures already but here is the full picture of how class will run.

Please read through everything! Even though some of the procedures/expectations are the same as they were with Mr. Rodriguez, it will be a good refresher. Some of them are different, so read carefully.

Please email me or talk to me at school about any questions you have. We should all be on the same page!

I am completely confident that every single student in each section can attain his or her Geometry goals. Let's work together.

Best,

Ms. Rapoport

***Special Note:**

I have gotten the chance to talk to some of you one-on-one and I want you to know that I have heard what you are saying about workload. Many of you have expressed that you often have major assignments/tests for multiple classes at the same time. I will do my best to check in with other teachers to try to avoid that (unfortunately, it won't always be possible). It would be helpful if you also let me know if you have a major graded assignment coming up in another class!

What do I need to bring to class?

- You will not need anything beyond what you needed for Mr. Rodriguez's class (pencil and a binder/notebook are most important).
- I think a binder would be the easiest way to stay organized but it is up to you. Because we will have a combination of handouts and notes on lined paper, a binder would allow you to keep them all in the same place. If you have a notebook, it would be a good idea to have a folder to go along with it.

What happens when I get to class?

- When class starts, you will silently complete a warm up. I will give you credit for both your warm up and homework while you work.
- It is NOT my goal to talk "at" you for the whole class period. I will do my best to keep the note-taking part of class to 10-15 minutes.
- The MOST important things you will do in class:
 - **Listen actively and quietly** to ANY speaker (a teacher, a student) whether it's in a whole-class or group setting.
 - **Be respectful** of all people in the classroom by being **on task**... that way you can be sure you are contributing positively and not hurting another class member's chance to learn.
 - **Be aware of your volume**... if we are working in groups or doing an activity, be mindful of your volume and how it may affect the classroom.

What should I do if I miss a day?

- Check the Wiki! All in-class assignments (with the exception of some activities) and homework will be posted daily. You should also find a copy of class notes, if we have them that day.
- There will be extra hard copies of classwork and homework on the back wall of Room 213.
- See Ms. Rapoport! It can be hard to miss a day without feeling a little behind. Find a time to come to tutorial (or another point during the day if you have scheduled a time with Ms. Rapoport) and make sure you are clear on the content that you missed.
- Please hand in your work no later than 3 days after you return from your absence. (Exceptions for some circumstances!)

What will be graded? How much is everything worth?

- For consistency, the grading breakdown will stay the same as it was with Mr. Rodriguez:
 - Assessments: 45%
 - Projects*: 25%
 - Homework: 15%
 - Participation: 15%

**There will be approximately 3-4 projects per quarter. Some of them may be in-class projects.*

- How do you grade my homework?
 - **Summary: 2 points per homework assignment**
 - **Detail:**
 - Homework will be checked daily for completion. You will get between 0 and 2 points. Late homework will receive a maximum of 1 point (still a lot better than 0!).
 - I will usually not collect homework because we will go over it in class and I want you to use it as a resource for practice and review.
- What counts toward my daily participation grade*?
 - **Summary: warm up + class presence + humanity point = 5 points**
 - **Detail:**
 - Warm up: You will get between 0 and 2 points for your warm up based on completion **and** based on focus. To get a 2 on your warm up you will 1) have finished it, or be on your way to finishing it, 2) have worked silently on it, and 3) have arrived on time (you can get a maximum of 1 point if you have an unexcused tardy).
 - Following directions, actively listening, coming to class on time, almost always having class materials, effort, effort, effort! These actions will help you earn 2 more points toward your participation grade.
 - Humanity point: We talked about humanity and its importance in our classroom. You can earn your 1 humanity point by being respectful in class. Easy, right?

*Are there extra credit participation points? YES! If you are asking wonderfully thoughtful questions, respectfully helping your classmates, or going above and beyond in other ways, you can earn an extra ¼ point. Sounds like nothing? It's the difference between a 100% and a 106%... that can make a real difference if you had a few off days where you lost points, or if you had a quiz grade you want to off set.